

Weekly Column for October 7, 2004

Boy it got cold quick, didn't it?

This week the column is themed with happiness, and more good news about Troy.

This latest issue of Hudson Valley Magazine arrived this week, and it was the Annual Best of the Hudson Valley issue. Last year we were fortunate enough to win the Best Golf Course with Frear Park. While we did not repeat in that category, we did win several other honors I would like to share with everyone today.

One of the great honors we received was the Best New Festival award for our River Street Festival back in June. I've said it a thousand times, but one more will be okay thanks to this new honor. All the credit in the world goes to Deputy Mayor Dan Crawley and many of the merchants on River Street for committing to the festival and seeing it through to the end. The planning for the event was done quickly, but the thousands of people we had downtown on that sunny Saturday afternoon made all the hard work pay off. Next year, the festival will be bigger and better, and I am extremely proud that the first one was accomplished so well.

Barker Park, on Third and State Streets in downtown Troy, won mention for "Best Hope for an Old Park." A strange category for sure, but credit should go the Friends of Barker Park for all the work that group has done in the past in not only cleaning up the park, but for all the publicity they put out there for Barker Park. Not to sound redundant, but that will pay off in the end as well.

Then there is Bournebrook Antiques, Mike and Claire Davis, who won a best reuse award for their store on River Street. Everyone knows Bournebrook is the place to go for antiques, and this honor only strengthens that notion.

The last winner in the City of Troy is the closest to me heart. My wife, Francesca, won an award for the "Best Politically Connected Luncheonette." They could have taken out "politically connected" and it would have been the same award. Her business has boomed since she opened two years ago, and it has nothing to do with me being mayor. I am proud of her for all the work she puts into Francesca's.

It is a good news week here in the City of Troy. Thanks for reading this humble column of mine, talk to you next week.

Any questions, comments, concerns or complaints can be sent to me at the Mayor's Office or you can call me at 270-4401.